RICHMOND DENTAL ASSISTANTS SOCIETY
504 MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Jacob Slaven of Travelers repose was a 1st cousin of my great grandfather, Reuben Slaven. My grandfather T. H. S. is about 3rd cousin of yours. John Slaven of Tyrone Ireland, married Mary Stuart of Scotland- We are direct decendents though several generations remote. My Cousin Annie Campbell's mother was one of the Travelers repose Slaven's and married her 3rd cousin- Uncle Jessie Slaven so she and her family are nearer to you than we are. Jacob Slaven was her grand father on Grandmothers side and Grand fathers ~~xxxxxxx~~ Rubin on Uncle Jessies side.

My fathers sister who is in Monterey now with her brother H. F. Slaven who is rather ill, sent me this information thinking it might be of interest to you. Maybe we will discover that we are closely related.

Margaret Slaven
(a Monterey Slaven)
6 a. m. Colonial
ave
Richmond Va

# Williamson Daily News

"IN THE HEART OF THE BILLION DOLLAR COAL FIELD" West Virginia, Wednesday Afternoon, Oct. 30, 1974


## Memorial held for L. Slaven

An hour-long memorial service in the courtroom of the Mingo County Circuit Court Tuesday morning paid tribute to the late Lant Rader Slaven, who was the Dean of the Mingo County Bar when he died last March 10 at the age of 82.

Circuit Judge Robert J. Staker and 14 members of the Mingo County Bar Association offered individual tributes to Slaven after the association had presented a resolution it had adopted in memory of the prominently known lawyer.

Present for the honoring of their father were Slaven's three daughters, Mrs. Phal H. (Margaret) Canada, and Mrs. Curt A. (Katharine) Levis, both of Columbus, Ohio, and Mrs. James B. (Nancy) Davis of Birmingham, Ala., their husbands and children. Close friends of the family and other acquaintances aslo attended the service.

W. Graham Smith, Jr., president of the county bar association, formally advised the court shortly after 9:30 a.m. that the association desired to

(See Story, No. 2 Page 2)



present a resolution with a motion for adoption. After introducing Slaven's daughters and families, he called upon J. Brooks Lawson, Sr., a practicing attorney for 45 years, to read the resolution. Copies of the resolution were to be delivered to the three daughters and to Slaven's brother, Capt. F. W. Slaven, U. S. Navy, retired, in addition to being spread upon the Civil Order Book of the circuit court.

Slaven practiced law in Williamson for nearly 60 years. He was actively involved with the history, development and progress of the Tug Valley area and was one of its most prominent citizens. A native of Lewisburg, Greenbrier County, he received his Bachelor of Law, magna cum laude, from the University of Virginia in 1914 and attained membership in Phi Beta Kappa and Order of the Coif.

He had served as president of the Mingo County Bar on several occasions and was a president of the West Virginia Bar Association. The resolution noted that "from the day of his admission to the Bar until his formal retirement on Dec. 31, 1972, he was an energetic, tireless, fearless, sound and able attorney. The practice of his profession was always with zeal, honor and good spirit, he was known widely as an able and ethical lawyer, with extensive practice in State, Federal Courts and Appellate Courts, including the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court of the United States."

The resolution reviewed Slaven's many and varied activities during his three score years as a Mingo County attorney and noted his prominent identification as an active member of the First Presbyterian Church in which he served as Deacon, Elder and Trustee. He was Elder Emeritus at the time of death.

"Lant Slaven was always ready and willing to render uncompensated service and he brought honor to our profession by reason of his sterling character and completely ethical conduct," the resolution continued. "We, his brothers at the Bar, shall always remember him and cherish the noble and fine spirit that he exemplified. Rare was the occasion that he would utter a harsh or unkind word about another, and he practiced a philosophy that we should all follow, and that is, 'If you can't say something good about your fellow man, remain silent.'"

Starting with remarks by Lawson, each of the attorneys offered comments in praise of the late attorney's abilities, fairness, honesty, integrity, willingness and cooperation. Zane Grey Staker, now of Kermit, a former law partner of Slaven, described him as "the most remarkable lawyer I ever knew" and added that he agreed with his (Staker's) young son that if there was a Hall of Fame for lawyers, Slaven ought to be in it.